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(3) Chief

CURRENT SUPPORT MEMORANDUM

BROADCASTING OF SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE INSTRUCTIONS AND ALERTS

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This report represents the immediate views of the originating intelligence components of the Office of Research and Reports. Comments are solicited.

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BROADCASTING OF SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE INSTRUCTIONS AND ALERTS

Civil defense instruction and alerts in the USSR are being transmitted over the wired broadcasting network, according to various reports and civil defense publications, and reliance may be placed on this system even in time of emergency. Radio broadcasts are evidently not used for this purpose but the dissemination of civil defense information and initial alerts would not be severely limited thereby since wire line receivers predominate in the USSR. The exclusive use of wired broadcasting and other highly secure means of communications in a defense emergency could prevent enemy aircraft from using USSR radio broadcasting stations as auxiliary navigational aid.

	Although	a more vigorous	program of	publicity l	has been called	25X1
for,	articles	on Soviet civi	defense are	not usual:	ly published	
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Special emphasis has been placed on the use of wired broadcasting for civil defense purposes in Soviet civil defense instructions. A 1956 manual states in part, "The entire population should be warned of the necessity to keep the loudspeakers of the wired 'radio' network turned on, since in a 'threatening situation,' all MPVO /Local Antiair Defense7 signals, and the announcements and instructions of the MPVO staff, are broadcast by 'radio'." The manual further states, "All shelters must have loudspeakers connected to the local wired 'radio' system. It is advisable that telephones also be installed." 6/ A 1957 manual notes that a loudspeaker and telephone are to be installed in shelters upon the declaration of a "threatening situation." 7/

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An article published early this year states "it is necessary to inform personnel of plants, establishments, collective farms and machine tractor stations about civil defense training, tests and competitions through the local radio" 9/--presumably the wired broadcasting network.

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